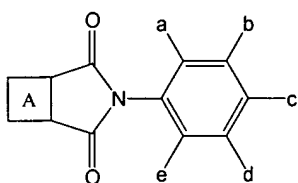


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

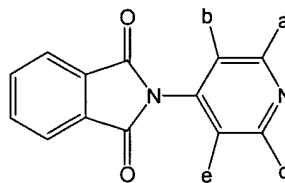
This set of claims replaces all previous versions.

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently amended) ~~A process~~ The process as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 12 wherein the polyolefin ~~polymer~~ is a polymer or copolymer of an aliphatic mono olefin containing two to six carbon atoms and having molecular weight of 30,000 to ~~5,00,000~~ 500,000.
3. (Currently amended) ~~A process~~ The process as claimed in claim 2 wherein the ~~aliphatic mono-olefin polymer~~ has a molecular weight in the range of 30,000 to ~~3,00,000~~ 300,000.
4. (Currently amended) ~~A process~~ The process as claimed in claim 2 wherein the ~~aliphatic mono-olefin polymer~~ is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene and ethylene-propylene copolymers.
5. (Currently amended) ~~A process~~ The process as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 12 wherein the polyolefin is ~~taken along with~~ nucleated in the presence of ~~one or more~~ copolymers containing at least one aliphatic olefin comonomer ~~and one or more~~ and an ethylenically unsaturated ~~comonomers~~ comonomer.
6. (Canceled).
7. (Currently amended) ~~A process~~ The process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the ~~comonomer in~~ comonomer of the co-polymer is present in an amount of 1 to 10% (w/w) of olefin.
8. (Currently amended) ~~A process~~ The process as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 12 wherein the amount of imide nucleating agent used in polyolefin composition ranges from 0.01% to 5% based on the polyolefin.

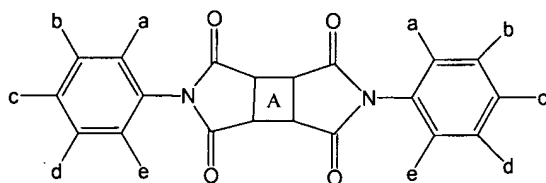
9. (Currently amended) ~~A process~~ The process as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 12 wherein the amount of imide nucleating agent used in polyolefin composition is in the range of 0.01% to 2.0% based on the polyolefin.
10. (Currently amended) ~~A process~~ The process as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 12 wherein the amount of imide nucleating agent used in polyolefin composition is in the range of 0.1% to 0.5% based on polyolefin.
11. (Currently amended) ~~A process~~ The process as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 12 wherein one or more additives selected from the group consisting of antioxidants, acid quenchers, UV absorbers, lubricants and surfactants are added along with the nucleating agent.
12. (New) A process for the preparation of a semi-crystalline thermoplastic polymer, comprising the steps:
(a) nucleating an aliphatic polyolefin with an imide selected from a compound of formula 1 to 4



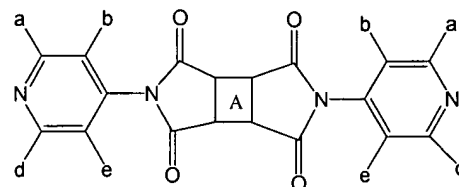
Formula 1



Formula 2

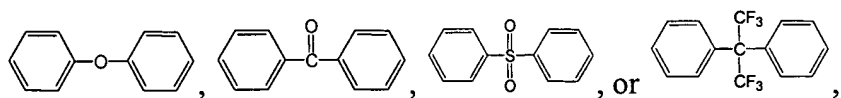


Formula 3



Formula 4

wherein in formula 1 and formula 2, A is a double bond or aromatic ring, c is a carboxyl functional group, and a, b, d, and e are each independently a hydrogen, an alkyl group of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, a carboxyl functional group, or a halogen; wherein in formula 3 and formula 4, A is a double bond, an aromatic ring, a benzene ring,



c is a carboxyl functional group, and a, b, d, and e are each independently a hydrogen, an alkyl group of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, a carboxyl functional group, or a halogen; thus obtaining a mixture; and
 (b) extruding the mixture at a temperature in the range of 170-210°C.

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